



CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THE HONORABLE ERIN E. STEWART

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 6, 2020

CITY OF NEW BRITAIN ANNOUNCES WATER SUPPLY DROUGHT WATCH

NEW BRITAIN – Today, Mayor Erin Stewart announced a Water Supply Drought Watch for New Britain. Due to the abnormally low amount of rainfall in the past few months the water levels in the city's reservoirs have fallen to 57% of total capacity. This low level of supply has triggered additional actions to be taken as per the city's water supply plan. As such, Mayor Stewart and the City of New Britain Water Department are asking all customers of the New Britain Water Utility to voluntarily take additional conservation measures.

Currently, water levels are below historic averages and require the City to proactively reduce water use. As required by the Drought Response plan, the City is notifying the public of the situation and suggesting voluntary actions to be taken by our consumers to reduce their use by 10%, which has already been enacted in several Connecticut communities.

"Well it didn't rain, or at least not as much as we had hoped" said Mayor Stewart. "It's time for us to move into the next phase of our conservation plan and do all that we can to preserve our water resources. I want to reiterate that this is still a voluntary effort, but we need everybody's help to conserve where they can. We certainly do not want to have to move beyond this stage if it's avoidable."

"The Board of Water Commissioners is asking for voluntary reduction in water use of 10% from all it customers and they request that all users continue to use water wisely so that more severe conditions do not require stricter mandatory conservation measures later this fall," said Ray Esponda, Deputy Director of Public Works and Utilities Division Manager for the City of New Britain.

New Britain Water Utility customers can reduce their water usage by watering lawns and gardens at night, wash vehicles at car washes that recycle their water, running appliances such as washing machines at full capacity, taking shorter showers, take showers rather than baths, repair any leaks rapidly; also by notifying the NBWD of any leaks in roadways or lawns within our service area. The City appreciates your cooperation in this situation and will continue to inform you as the situation progresses.

Please check the city's website for additional information on water conservation and for tips on how customers can reduce their usage.

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